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Allen W. Dulles, Former CIA Chief, Is Dead At 75

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WASHINGTON — Allen W. Dulles, the most creative, powerful and eminent U.S. intelligence officer of modern times, died of complications of pneumonia late Wednesday night in Georgetown University Hospital here. He was 75.

The grandson of one secretary of state, the nephew of another and the brother of still another — the late John Foster Dulles — he was the nation's foremost intelligence operative during World War II, working from Geneva, Switzerland.

As director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 1953 to 1961, Mr. Dulles presided over some of the most brilliant successes and some of the worst embarrassments of American espionage.

The Professional Touch

Mr. Dulles did not found the CIA, but he professionalized it and transformed it into one of the boldest and most important instruments of national power. Under his direction, the CIA conceived, constructed and flew the U-2 spy plane and the spy-in-the-sky satellite, sending them deep into the Soviet Union to photograph Russia's growing nuclear arsenal; tunneled under the Berlin wall; toppled a Communist from power in Guatemala with a bullet and a leftist in Iran in a coup, began subsidies to American labor, education and cultural organizations operating overseas; and mounted the unsuccessful Bay of Pigs invasion in an attempt to topple Fidel Castro in Cuba.

Mr. Dulles had been in declining health since suffering a mild stroke over a year ago. He entered Georgetown Hospital on Dec. 24 suffering from a bad case of flu which grew into pulmonary edema—water on the lungs. He died at 11:10 p.m. EST, Wednesday from complica-

Lauded By Nixon

In a statement, President Nixon praised Mr. Dulles as "a man who brought civility, intelligence and great dedication to everything he did."

Mr. Nixon added that "in the nature of his task, his achievements were known too only a few. But—because of him—the world is a safer place today."

At Walter Reed Army Medical Center, former President Dwight D. Eisenhower extolled Dulles as "a devoted public servant whose outstanding ability will be greatly missed by the nation."

CIA Director Richard Helms, who worked for Mr. Dulles for many years, praised his "unique" contribution to the establishment of the modern American intelligence service.

In the Soviet Union, the official news agency, Tass, declared Thursday that "he was not only spy number one but he also fiercely hated the Soviet Union and was the advocate of unscrupulous ideological and propaganda activity by the United States government."

Strong as it was, the Tass statement did not reach the bombastic level set in 1951 by Ilya Ehrenberg, a leading Soviet propagandist. "Even if the spy, Allen Dulles, should arrive in heaven through somebody's absentmindedness," Ehrenberg wrote in Pravda, "he would begin to blow up the clouds, mine the stars, and slaughter the angels."

With their three sisters, the Dulles brothers grew up in a series of Presbyterian parsonages occupied by their father, the Rev. Allen M. Dulles.

After his graduation from Princeton University, Mr. Dulles served as a junior diplomat and intelligence officer in Europe. One of his favorite incidents of his early diplomatic service occurred in Bern, Switzerland, near the

"insignificant little man" called to see someone in authority in the U.S. mission.

"I was scheduled to play tennis, so I had no time for him," Mr. Dulles recalled later. "Somewhat later I learned that the man was Lenin. If I had seen him, who knows what the results might have been."

He often cited the story later to associates in the CIA as an object lesson in his theory that no one is too insignificant for official attention.

Mr. Dulles obtained and personally managed an agent within the German foreign office who had access to every paper. Through him and other members of his extensive apparatus, Dulles obtained the first reports of the German experimental laboratory at Peenemunde for the testing of a rocket bomb and many other secrets.

Directing clandestine negotiations with some of Hitler's generals, Mr. Dulles arranged the surrender of the German army of northern Italy nearly a week before V-E day. This "secret surrender," later the subject of one of his several books, was one of his proudest achievements.

Mrs. Clover Todd Dulles, the former CIA director's wife, survives him, as do two daughters, Mrs. Joan Buresch of Zurich and Mrs. Clover Dulles Jebsen of New York City, and a son, Allen M. Dulles, who was severely wounded in action in the Korean War.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. EST Saturday at Georgetown Presbyterian Church here.